

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/645,604

Examiner

Tuan V. Thai

Applicant(s)

FELDMEIER ET AL.

Art Unit

2186

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 4/26/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 56-87 renumbered as 1-24,27,29,25-26,28,30-32 respectively.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

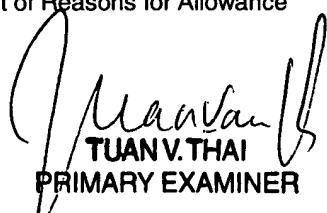
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


TUAN V. THAI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Application/Control Number: 10/645,604

Art Unit: 2186

Attorney's Docket No.: M4065.0573/P573-B

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: Feldmeier et al. **Group:** 2186

Serial No.: 10/645,604 **Examiner:** Tuan Thai

For: ***PARTIALLY-ORDERED CAMS USED IN TERNARY HIERARCHICAL
ADDRESS SEARCHING/SORTING.***

1. This action is responsive to amendment filed April 26, 2006.
Claims 56-87 are now allowed. Claims 1-55 have been cancelled.

2. The Declarations submitted by Applicant's counsel to
establish inventorship of the relevant subject matter of LANCAM
and MUAC is now sufficient. The rejection of claims 56-87 under
35 U.S.C. 102(a) and objection to the Oath/ Declarations are
hereby withdrawn.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

3. The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for
Allowance:

The prior art of record does not teach or suggest, alone or
in combination, **all** the limitations of the independent claims of

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the current invention (claims 56, 62, 65, 71, 73 and 77-81). Particularly, none of the prior arts of record disclose the structure of a binary content addressable memory (CAM) for storing ternary hierarchical addresses of a communication system and wherein each ternary hierarchical address comprises a communication system address and associated communication system address mask, the binary CAM comprising a plurality of entries wherein each entry comprises a pair of value, each having the logically ANDed communication system address (or the address complement) and its associated mask (claim 56 and 65); in addition of the above, the prior arts further do not disclose the entry is positioned in the CAM such that each entry is positioned based on the number of contiguous ones in the associated mask (claims 62 and 79). Similarly for claims 71, 73, 77-78 and 80-81; the prior arts further do not teach the mask number is defined as the number of contiguous ones in an associated address mask and address entries having the highest mask number are stored at the highest location of the CAM, wherein lowest mask number address entries are stored at address entry locations at the lowest CAM location. In light of the foregoing, claims 56, 62, 65, 71, 73 and 77-81 of the present application are found to be patentable over the prior arts.

Claims 57-61, 63-64, 66-70, 72, 74-76, 82-84 and 85-87 further limit the allowable independent claims 56, 62, 65, 71, 73

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and 77-81. These claims are therefore allowable for the same reason as set forth above.

Any comments considered necessary by Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan V. Thai whose telephone number is (571)-272-4187. The examiner can normally be reached on from 6:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M..

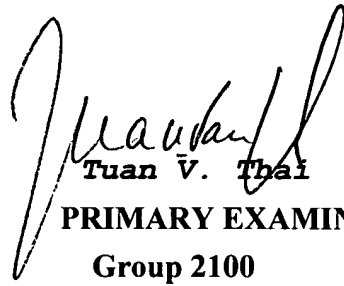
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mathew M. Kim can be reached on (571)-272-4182. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

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Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TVT/July 07, 2006


Tuan V. Thai
PRIMARY EXAMINER
Group 2100